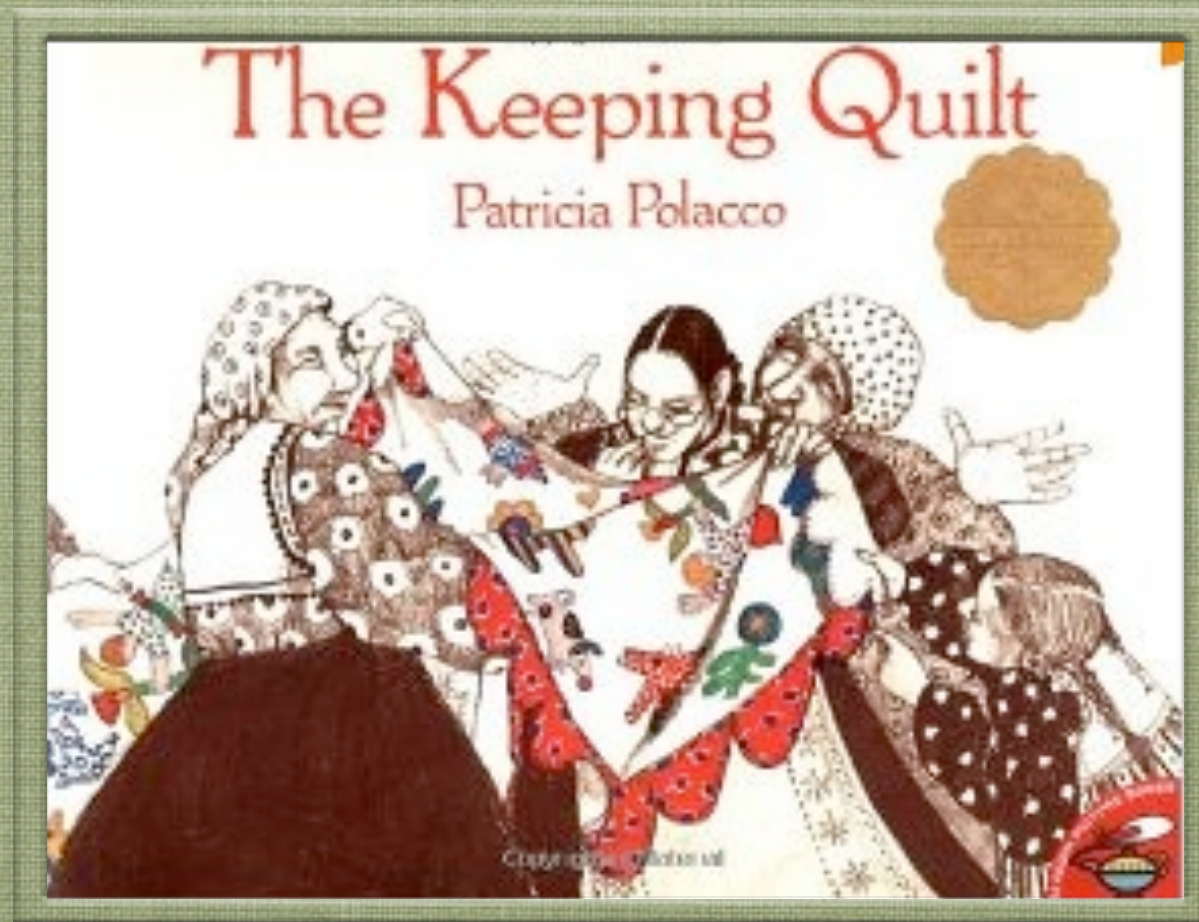


The Keeping Quilt



Analyzed by Felisha Ward

Summary

- This is a story of a family with a tradition of passing down a quilt built with pieces of clothing of special significance from various family members. The quilt reminds their family to remember their past and look toward the future.

Does the book tell a good story?

- Yes, this book tells a very good story. It explains how an artifact that is passed down from generation to generation helps people remember their families. It also helps the characters in the story hold onto their Russian culture and Jewish religion. The audience is visually able to see how artifacts keep family history alive.

Is the story accurate and authentic in its historical detail, including the setting and the known events of history?

- The story is accurate and authentic because it explains the significance of a quilt to a Russian family. It describes the feelings that immigrants may have had and still have of missing their families, culture, and home land.

Is the language authentic to the times?

- Yes, the language is authentic to the times, but mostly authentic to that culture. They discuss different family members names, traditions, and memories that are indicative of the characters Russian heritage.
- The pictures in the book are authentic in the portrayal of the immigrants and family in the book. They show dress of immigrants coming into America at the time, as well as of the conditions on the journey to America.

Is the historical interpretation sound?

- Yes, the historical interpretation is sound because it describes the life of immigrants and their desire to hold onto their culture after immigrating to another country. In addition, it discusses the life of this Russian Jewish family after their ancestors immigrated to America.

What voices are missing?

- Some voices that are missing are those of other immigrants of different cultures that came to America from other countries.
- The voices of the family members who were not able to immigrate are also missing, explaining the conditions in which some immigrants were trying to escape.

Does the book provide insight and understanding into current issues as well as those in the past?

- Yes, the book does provide insight and understanding into current issues. Issues of today's illegal immigration could be discussed based upon the reading of this book. This book provides insight into the differences of immigration in the past to the current issues of immigration.

Three learning strategies that could be used in concert with this book:

- Use this book to discuss artifacts as primary sources. Explain how they can be analyzed to help us understand our family history.
- This book can be used to teach students that our past history helps develop our personal identity. Through looking at the past, we are able to understand our culture. Students can look at immigration of their own ancestors and how it has influenced their identity.
- This book can be used to discuss cultural diversity, discussing the different artifacts that might be passed down from generation to generation in different cultures. In addition, it will show students the many types of cultures present in the U.S. and the journey of their immigration.